

TSC Launches Live Streaming of Lessons Programme



Benjamin Wanjami, a Physics teacher at Alliance Girls High School demonstrates livestreaming of lessons at the launch

The Teachers Service Commission (TSC) has launched Kenya's first ever live streaming of lessons programme through which teachers of top schools will teach multiple classes from various schools simultaneously.

The programme, which will run as a pilot for two months, before national rollout will target form two students initially, and focus on five subjects – Mathematics, Physics, Biology, Chemistry and English.

Two principal schools - Machakos Boys High School and Alliance Girls High School will participate in the pilot and beam lessons to five satellite schools each.

With the launch of the programme, students from the linked schools will enjoy diversified teaching and learning activities streamed live onto screens in their classrooms by teachers from the principal schools. The lessons will also be interactive, as students in the satellite schools will have an opportunity to make comments and ask questions via the video link.

The schools that will be linked with Machakos Boys High School are Isiolo Girls in Isiolo, Colin Davies Mixed Secondary in Loitokitok, Kajiado, AIC Kavalula Secondary in Kitui, Njoro Secondary in Taita Taveta and Mithingini Girls in Makeni. Alliance Girls High in Kiambu will beam lessons to Kipkuror Mixed in Bomet, Kiwandani and Bishop Baldacchino secondary schools in Kilifi, Kurongurik Secondary School in Narok and Suguta Girls Secondary in Kisii.

Speaking during the launch of the Live Streaming Programme at Alliance Girls High School on January 26, 2022, Dr Nancy Macharia, Chief Executive Officer, TSC said COVID-19 pandemic that occasioned a long closure of schools in 2020 highlighted the need for teachers to be innovative by adopting new trends in teaching.

"To support teachers in enhancing ICT and remote learning skills, the Commission has developed a manual to guide the use of technology for teaching and learning," she said, adding that: "As a Commission, we envisage a future where blended learning will be the order of the day to ensure high quality of teaching and learning."

Dr Macharia assured the country that the technology will not render teachers jobless, saying the industry is merely leveraging on technology to address existing gaps. She said 163,938 teachers have so far been trained on remote learning methodologies.

The launch was attended by key education stakeholders, including top leaders from KNUT, KUPPET, KESSHA and KEPSHA. Speakers at the event hailed the initiative as a game changer that will make learning competitive and offer a platform on which talents and resources can be shared.

WHAT STAKEHOLDERS SAID

KNUT Secretary General Collins Oyuu

"I am happy TSC is mitigating teaching gaps through interventions like live streaming of lessons. We shall have better performance of learners in target subjects and balanced syllabus coverage. Live streaming of lessons will lead to higher retention and transition rates in our schools. This is what we are fighting for. This is a great start and KNUT is here to support this programme."



KUPPET Secretary General Akello Misorri

"We have realised that because of the challenges of the 21 Century, we need to bridge the gap. I appreciate TSC for this endeavour. How I wish that this investment by our development partners can also ensure that schools have adequate internet connection!"



KESSHA Chairman Kahi Indimuli

"Live streaming will be a game changer in the way teaching and learning is being done in this country. We are getting into an era of teachers without borders. We want to appreciate the TSC's innovative thinking because it provides us with the chance to share knowledge and apparatus."



KEPSHA Chairman Johnson Nzioka

"Live streaming of lessons not only provides an alternative mode of content delivery but also creates an opportunity to maximise on available resources and teachers' talents. I am happy to hear that the ICT ministry will connect all schools to the internet in the near future to give every Kenyan child an opportunity to enjoy this programme. We urge TSC to continue with the great work."

As a Teacher, What are Your Expectations for 2022, the Year with the Busiest Academic Calendar Yet?



Paul Muchai Njenga
Mweiga High School, Nyeri

I foresee a return to normalcy in schools in 2022. With the comeback of competitions in game/sports and music/drama, lessons learnt from the COVID-19 pandemic should form a significant theme of the music and drama productions. I see the 2022 music and drama season being quite entertaining.



Sitati Lucy
St Peter's Sang'alo Secondary School, Bungoma

I look forward to a calm 2022 with greater collaboration between all stakeholders in the search for proactive solutions for school unrest.



Esther Anyango Okoro
St Patrick's Obange Secondary School, Kisumu

I am optimistic that in 2022 the COVID-19 scare will be over. This is due to the fact that many teachers and students have been vaccinated against COVID-19.

I expect a return of co-curricular activities, which will help address unrest in schools.



Stephene Ayienda Orengo
Mokowe Secondary School, Lamu

I hope that the 2022 academic calendar will be free of any interruptions. I thank TSC for affirmatively promoting teachers in marginalised areas in 2021 and plead for the same to continue in the new-year.



Muriira Muriki Fredrick
Kieni Kiraja Primary School, Meru

I hope that everything will stabilise now that a good number of Kenyans have been vaccinated against COVID-19. As a teacher, I expect to see our economy stabilising and teachers' financial situation improving.



Makori Mairura Thomas
Khadija Girls Day Secondary School, Mandera

In 2022, I will implement a key lesson that I have learnt from the recent spate of school unrest. That teachers need to change their approach and impart social values and responsibility in their learners alongside academic knowledge. This way, we will be able to stem the mayhem in schools.



Ann Ndegwa
Kileleshwa Primary School, Nairobi

As a teacher of CBC classes, I love this new model of education. In fact, the practical subjects that molded some of us in our time in basic education have come back in CBC. I hope to enhance my teaching of music, home-science, agriculture, art and physical education in 2022. I also look forward to imparting international practices of the 21st Century in my learners such as innovation, problem solving and critical thinking through my CBC.



Josephine Mwangi
Kikopey Secondary School, Nakuru

With 2022 being an election year, teachers need to work harder to ensure timely syllabus coverage by creating extra time. With five national examinations, teachers and learners must hit the ground running in 2022 and think outside the box.

We Must Sacrifice to Meet Demands of this Year's Programmes

By Janet Nzisa

The new normal has forced us to always think outside the box, thanks to the COVID-19 pandemic. This is more evident in the education sector after significant changes in the academic calendar resulted in a huge syllabus coverage backlog.

- We expect year 2022 to be an extremely unique one as, for the first time in Kenya, five examinations will be administered. To prepare candidates for these examinations, teachers need to sacrifice their comfort to midwife the smooth transition of all candidates.

Continues on page 4

Uphold Integrity in Examinations, TSC Urges Principals

Teachers have been urged to guard against malpractices in this year's five national examinations. In a statement ahead of the examinations that start this month, Teachers Service Commission Chief Executive Dr Nancy Macharia asked school principals to ensure Grade 6, Class 8 and Form 4 candidates are adequately prepared to sit the five national examinations lined up in the 2022 calendar year.

"At times, those in positions of centre managers, supervisors and invigilators have been found culpable of exams malpractice," Dr Macharia said.

She added: "As you prepare to enter the third term during which the 2021 national examinations will be conducted, I wish to remind all teachers to prepare the candidates well and desist from the temptation of engaging in any examination malpractices," she said.

The 2021 Kenya Certificate of Primary Education (KCPE) and Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education (KCSE) that are scheduled to be held in March 2022.

In November and December 2022, candidates will sit the 2022 Grade 6, KCPE and KCSE national examinations.

At the same time, Dr Macharia announced that secondary school teachers will begin their training on the Competency Based Curriculum (CBC) in April 2022 in readiness to receive the first CBC cohort, now in Grade 6. The Grade 6 learners are expected to join junior secondary school in 2023.



Dr Nancy Macharia

"I urge you to familiarise yourselves with the CBC since the first CBC cohort will join junior secondary school in 2023"

"I urge you to familiarise yourselves with the CBC since the first CBC cohort will join junior secondary school in 2023," she said.

The role of the teacher has changed fundamentally with the change in curriculum, she said, meaning teachers are required to use differentiated modes of instruction and assessment for learners to benefit individually and progress meaningfully.

She said the integration of ICT in teaching and learning will help improve teachers' content delivery and classroom engagement. "Teachers need to be techno-savvy not only to access online educational resources and diversify their modes of curriculum delivery, but also to access a whole range of automated services offered by the Commission," she said.

She urged teachers to embrace remote learning methodologies as a strategy to ensure learning continues even during pandemics such as COVID-19.

We welcome comments and articles on topical issues affecting teachers and education sector in general. Send your feedback and contribution to: mwalimunews@tsc.go.ke

5 Number of national examinations that candidates will sit in 2022

Know Your Regional Directors and County Directors for Homa Bay



Stephen Yida Ajanga
Regional Director
Nyanza



Dr Esther Chemisto Musani
County Director
Homa Bay



Pamela Ameka
Sub County Director
Suba



George Lukibia
Sub County Director
Rangwe



Stephen Muyube
Sub County Director
Ndhiwa



Dr Truphosa Korir
Deputy County Director/
Sub County Director
Homa Bay



Wesley Rotich
Sub County Director
Rachuonyo South



Robert Rutto
Sub County Director
Rachuonyo North



Mary Nyongesa
Sub County Director
Rachuonyo East

Anne: Guidance, Counselling Made me "Mrs Popularity" Kenya

My name is Anne Otieno. I have been teaching history and Christian Religious Education (CRE) at Kiriogo Secondary School in Nyandarua County for the last eight years.

I also head the Guidance and Counselling Department in where I often deal with extreme cases of Gender Based Violence (GBV). These experiences always make me want to speak out and let people know the pain some learners go through.

Thus, I was happy when I came across the Mrs Universe (Kenya) platform on social media. The site offered women a chance to voice their feelings on GBV through a beauty pageant, which I promptly joined.

The competition was organised by Tinah Lughano, a franchise holder of Mrs Universe Kenya. She had partnered with other organisations and manufacturers that included: Darling Hair company, Little Mr and Miss Kenya, Talent Preneur, ONEA on HAIR and Phusion.

About 75 contestants applied and we were all invited to Nairobi to present our project proposals on GBV. My project was on school and adolescent-based gender violence.

I qualified for the second phase of the competition, which involved showcasing talent. I danced to a Congolese song and modelled a Turkana traditional wear. We then progressed to the next level where we were required to model a creative wear.



Teacher Anne

I came up with a pleated skirt, an off-shoulder top and a fan, all made from newspapers and themed on ending GBV. After qualifying at this stage, I joined 15 other finalists for the grand finale.

We were taken through team building and training in dancing, cat walking and modelling.

We also visited a GBV rescue centre in Kajiado that was built by one of the 2019 Mrs Popularity finalists where we offered psychological support to the girls. It was heart-breaking to see girls as young as 12 breastfeeding.

The competition entered the online voting stage and each finalist was required to convince her friends and followers to vote for them using the twitter hashtag #BeTheVoice. That is how my fellow teachers rallied behind me and I was crowned Mrs Popularity Kenya, Nyandarua County 2021/2022 on 13th December, 2021. In addition, I was also declared Mrs Universe, Nyandarua County.

I feel empowered to speak against GBV and look forward to working with communities to end the practice. The two titles have created opportunities for me to advance my fight against GBV in ways I could not have imagined. I encourage fellow teachers to spot and nurture talent in learners.

Teachers must Sacrifice to Meet 2022 Academic Programmes

From page 2

The immense preparation of learners calls for practical ways to make learning meaningful and fun and maximise coverage of syllabus.

So, how do we enliven learning in a busy academic year like this one?

Teachers can incorporate ICT in the instructional process and use COVID-19 related facts and reports, both local and global, in illustrating lessons.

The data can be used to teach percentages and linear progression in Mathematics, equipping learners with latest Arithmetic and life skills.

The same data can as well be used in Geography, History and Government and other learning areas. Instead of complaining about huge work load, teachers can grab the opportunity to make learning more engaging by integrating ICT.



Janet Nzisa
Teacher

The 21st century learners find ICT integrated lessons enjoyable and this yields high content retention.

Further, teachers can explore take-home learning activities by recommending learners to watch and report on relevant TV channels, radios stations and websites with valuable content and easy access. With skillful selection and previewing, teachers can supplement textbook theory with content available on free-to-air TV channels and radio stations.

We should focus on the positive aspect of the pandemic to make learning fun this year. We cannot keep dwelling on the past. With our individual selflessness and willingness to go the extra mile, the 2022 academic programmes will be achieved. As we always say, teaching is a calling, it is time for teachers to demonstrate creativity in their content delivery and make learning fun to navigate through the crash programme of this year's academic calendar.

Janet is a teacher in Machakos County.

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